

CONFIDENTIAL : To be treated as strictly confidential until released for publication as follows:-

EVENING PAPERS : THURSDAY, 20TH OCTOBER, 1949.

MORNING PAPERS : FRIDAY, 21ST OCTOBER, 1949.

EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS - AUGUST, 1949.

Recovery in Employment during August.

The number of wage and salary earners in employment (exclusive of rural workers and female private domestics), at the end of August, 1949, 2,423,100, although 103,300 more than the number in employment at the end of July did not reach the level of May or June. Of the total 1,764,400 were males and 658,700 were females, these figures being 77,400 and 25,900 higher than the corresponding July figures, but lower by 22,400 and 5,300 respectively than the May figures. Private employment rose by 97,600 or 5.7 per cent. in August while government employment rose by 5,700 or 0.9 per cent. (Government employment, however, was not included in the general decline in June and July.) The increase was shared by all States except Tasmania where the number employed fell by 400 (200 males and 200 females).

Changes in Industrial Groups.

Male employment during August rose in all industrial groups with the exception of shipping and stevedoring, rail and air transport, and health services, while female employment rose in all industries with the exception of rail and air transport. Employment in coal mining rose by 14,500 persons, factory employment by 74,000 (55,100 males and 18,900 females) and commerce by 5,800 but in none of these industries had the May figures been regained. The rise in factory employment was shared by all classes of factories.

ROLAND WILSON  
COMMONWEALTH STATISTICIAN.

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS.

CANBERRA. A.C.T.

20TH OCTOBER, 1949.